WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced today that the Hampton Veterans Affairs Medical Center will receive additional funds for targeted upgrades and improvements through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The additional funds will allow the hospital to replace fire alarm and nurse call systems at the medical center.

"These additional funds for the Hampton V.A. Hospital will go along way towards enhancing and improving the benefits our veterans have earned," said Congressman Scott. "In addition, these Recovery Act funds will benefit the local Hampton Roads economy by providing local veteran-owned small businesses with much needed work."

The \$1.5 million project will pay for upgrades to fire alarm and nurse call systems in a number of patient care areas at the Hampton VA Medical Center. The contract was awarded to Adira Construction, Inc., a small, Veteran-owned business in Chesapeake, Va. In addition, the Hampton Medical Center will complete an electrical upgrade project estimated at \$6.2 million.

Another provision of the law allowed VA to hire nearly 2,300 benefits claims processors, an important move that will reduce the time Veterans wait for a decision on claims for compensation and pensions, education and home loan guaranty benefits.

Companies interested in VA-related contracts can get information at www.va.gov or by calling Centralized Acquisition at (757) 722-9961, ext. 3113.

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